

³
~~6~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim ²
~~8~~, wherein said durable material is selected from the group consisting essentially of polypropylene, nylon, plastic, rubber and synthetic material.

⁴
~~7~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim ¹
~~17~~, wherein said moisture absorbance means is made of at least one layer of absorbent material.

⁵
~~8~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim ³
~~8~~, wherein said absorbent material is selected from the group consisting essentially of wood pulp, fibers, polymers, and combinations thereof.

Please cancel claim 9.

⁶
~~10~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim ²
~~17~~, wherein said [barrier means] base unit includes skid-resistant means for the prevention of any movement of said surface protection system.

Please cancel claim 11.

⁷
~~12~~ (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim ¹
~~17~~, wherein said surface protection system is a single, disposable sealed system.

63 13. (Amended) The [surface protection system] mat of claim [4] 17, wherein said surface protection system is disposable and recyclable.

Please cancel claims 14 and 15.

Sub 14 16. (Amended) A method of protecting a restroom surface from spillage of [liquids] urine by placing said surface protection system of claim [4] 17 on the surface in need of protection.

Sub 15 17. (New) A urinal or commode mat for protecting a restroom surface from spillage of liquids, said mat comprising:

- a cartridge unit comprising moisture absorbing means for absorbing and retaining liquid;
- a rigid cartridge top disposed over and connected to said moisture absorbing means for collecting and draining liquid onto said moisture absorbing means;
- barrier means disposed beneath and connected to said moisture absorbing means for preventing moisture escape from said moisture absorbing means; and
- a base unit operatively connected to said cartridge unit and containing said cartridge unit.

16 B